

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 JOHANN 00920 111119Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10
LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 HA-05 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02
L-03 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20 /107 W
-----080307 111634Z /53

R 110730Z APR 78
FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7536
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMCONSUL DURBAN
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS JOHANNESBURG 0920

CAPE TOWN ALSO FOR EMBASSY
DEPT PLEASE PASS AFL-CIO

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PLAB, SHUM, SF
SUBJECT: LABOR MINISTER SAYS S.A. LAWS NOT DISCRIMINATORY

REF: A) JOHANNESBURG 0839; B) JOHANNESBURG 0751

1. SPEAKING BEFORE THE SPECIAL CONFERENCE OF THE TRADE UNION COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA WHICH WAS CALLED TO AIR THE FINDINGS OF THE WIEHAHN COMMISSION ON LABOR REFORM (SEE SEPTTEL) MINISTER OF LABOR FANIE BOTHA SAID THAT THE COUNTRY'S CURRENT LABOR LEGISLATION SPECIFICALLY PROHIBITS DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF RACE OR COLOR ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS. " WAGES ARE, THEREFORE, PRESCRIBED ON AN OCCUPATIONAL BASIS AND THE PERSON PERFORMING A CERTAIN CLASS OF WORK SHOULD BE PAID THE WAGE PRESCRIBED FOR THAT CLASS OF WORK, IRRESPECTIVE OF HIS RACE OR COLOR.... THE GAP WHICH EXISTS BETWEEN THE WAGES OF WORKERS PERFORMING THE SAME CLASS OF WORK IS DUE TO THE DEGREE OF SKILL OF THE WORKER, EFFICIENCY, EXPERIENCE AND OTHER FACTORS

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 JOHANN 00920 111119Z

BUT NEVER IS THE RACE OR COLOR OF A PERSON THE DECIDING FACTOR", HE SAID.

2. BOTHA ALSO POINTED TO THE SHORTAGE OF NEARLY 100,000 SKILLED AND SEMI-SKILLED WORKERS. REFERRING TO THE INCREASED EMPLOYMENT OF BLACKS, COLOREDS, AND INDIANS IN SUCH POSITIONS, HE SAID THIS HAS OCCURRED WITHOUT ANY NOTICEABLE DETRIMENTAL EFFECT ON THE

WHITE COMMUNITY WHERE UNEMPLOYMENT WAS ONLY 0.7 PERCENT
IN 1977.

3. COMMENT: BOTHA FAILED TO MENTION THAT UNDER CURRENT LABOR
LEGISLATION BLACKS ARE SPECIFICALLY EXCLUDED FROM THE WAGE
BARGAINING PROCESS. THE WAGE GAP SHOULD THEREFORE BE VIEWED IN
THIS CONTECT, AS WELL AS THE COMPLEX SYSTEM OF INFLUX CONTROLS AND
SEPARATE DEVELOPMENT LEGISLATION WHICH INHIBIT THE FREEDOM
OF MOVEMENT OF BLACKS.

JOHNSON

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LABOR UNIONS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978JOHANN00920
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780155-0906
Format: TEL
From: JOHANNESBURG
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780471/aaaacihm.tel
Line Count: 72
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d14920b3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 JOHANNESBURG 839, 78 JOHANNESBURG 751
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3012565
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LABOR MINISTER SAYS S.A. LAWS NOT DISCRIMINATORY
TAGS: ELAB, SHUM, SF
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d14920b3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014